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MASSACHUSETTS.

MASSACHUSETTS:

A TYPICAL AMERICAN COMMONWEALTH.

BY

WILLIAM ELLIOT GRIFFIS, D.D.

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MASSACHUSETTS:

A TYPICAL AMERICAN COMMONWEALTH.

THE cradle of Massachusetts history was discovered within the memory of living men. Under the carved oaken beams of the Manor House at Scrooby, in the northern part of Nottinghamshire, England, about 1604, the Pilgrim Church was born. Here, on the banks of the Idle, gathered farmers, artisans, and laborers from the three counties of Nottingham, Lincoln, and York. The bond of a common religious faith held them together. John Robinson, their spiritual teacher, was nobly assisted by William Brewster, the Elder of the congregation, and by William Bradford, then a young man, but with great business and administrative abilities.

Forced to leave a monarchy, they took refuge in a republic, where, from the previous visit of Brewster, they knew there was "liberty for all men." The same tyranny which drove out so many good men from England had already nearly ruined the woollen and other textile manufacturers of Norfolk, many of whom brought their capital and skill to Leyden. In this rich city lived several hundred English people, including contractors, manufacturers, soldiers serving in the Dutch army, and students in the University. Thither, in 1610, came Robinson and his congregation, thus making the second English church in the city. During the Twelve Years' Truce these prospective citizens of Massachusetts remained in the municipality and the federal republic, learning much of government, politics, business, and handicraft, as their own and the Leyden records show. Of the Pilgrim company, William Bradford, Isaac Allerton, Degory Priest, and many others became citizens of the municipality, and thus gained experience in the working of republican institutions. Before their eyes they saw in full operation, in a union of sovereign states bound in federal union by a written constitution, and under the red, white, and blue flag, common public free schools, toleration of religion, the registration of deeds,

mortgages and wills, the written ballot, freedom of the press, democratic government in church affairs; and, among the Anabaptists, who were numerous around them, complete separation of Church and State. In a word, these men, destined to be the founders of the greatest republic in the world, had here every facility, in a free republic, to reinforce practically their ideas and inheritance of English freedom.

Yet because their sons and daughters were marrying into native families, their young men enlisting in the army led by Maurice, and their people likely to be swallowed up in the Dutch nationality, withal desirous of propagating their tenets of independency, these English Independents resolved to cross the Atlantic to the New World. In their enterprise they were joined by Miles Standish, one of the captains in the English contingent of the Dutch army.

They made their journey in boats by canal to Delfshaven, embarked on the "Speedwell," and crossed to Southampton, where they were joined by John Alden and other colonists, and the "Speedwell" by the "Mayflower." After many vicissitudes, including kind treatment by the people of Plymouth, they made their wintry voyage of nine weeks across the Atlantic. The "Mayflower" had

a tonnage less than that of a good Erie Canal boat. One hundred and one persons landed on the shortest day of the year, December 21, 1620; and the first or common house was begun on Christmas Day. Soon a group of seven rough dwellings sheltered the company.

Without giving the name of Scrooby, Austerfield, or Bawtry to any of their settlements, they called the place Plymouth, and formed the "Old Colony." Other emigrants from Leyden and England joined them; but at the end of ten years they had not increased beyond the number of three hundred persons, or about the total number of Robinson's Leyden congregation at its highest. The oldest street in New England is Leyden Street in Plymouth, Mass. The most famous boulder in the world is Plymouth Rock,—a bit of stone as geographically erratic and as influentially enduring as the Pilgrim Fathers themselves. Their simple but heroic life has been glorified in poetry, painting, fiction, and oratory.

One of the first museums and memorial edifices in the American Union enshrines the Pilgrim relics in Plymouth. As early as 1769 Forefathers' Day (December 21) was inaugurated by a local celebration which is now perpetuated in a dozen New England societies and

nearly fifty Congregational and other clubs throughout the United States. In 1822 Pilgrim Hall was dedicated; in 1867, the imposing granite canopy placed over Plymouth Rock; and in 1889, the completion of the National Pilgrim Monument was celebrated. On this oc-

PLYMOUTH ROCK.

casion the oration was most appropriately given by the Hon. W. C. Breckenridge, of Kentucky, of Scotch-Irish and Presbyterian ancestry, and the poem by John Boyle O'Reilly, a Roman Catholic Irish-American. Besides the bronze tablet in memory of John Robinson in Leyden, it is proposed to rear at Delfshaven a memorial to

the Pilgrim fathers and mothers, and in recognition of the hospitality of the tolerant Dutch republic.

Small and poor as the Pilgrim colony and republic was, and much greater and richer as became the later Puritan immigration and Bay Colony, the spirit of the former is the more typically American. The people of the United States may be outliving Puritan ideals, but they love more and more the Pilgrim spirit and practice. Our national tradition and procedure are Pilgrim rather than Puritan, in favor of toleration and the separation of Church and State, less rigor of form with a sweeter and purer Christianity. The Pilgrims were reinforced Englishmen, tempered and mellowed in a tolerant republic. They were men of three lands. Both colonies in Massachusetts were as mustard seed and leaven. But while the Puritan, or Bay, colonists represent phenomenal growth and extensiveness, the Pilgrims stand for the leavening, or intensive, principle in the making of America.

At Plymouth was the first successful settlement of a colony, consisting mostly of Englishmen, on the shores of the Indian country,— meaning "great hill," — or of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. The name "Massachusetts" came probably from a single elevation overlooking Boston Harbor (Blue Hill, near Milton); and part of

it still lives in that of Wachusett Mountain. Possibly, centuries before, the Norsemen had settled and begun civilization at Norumbega; and it may be some of the names on the map are of Norse-Indian origin. Whatever may be the ultimate issue of the question of the Northmen's occupation of the Charles River region, or about Taunton, Massachusetts glories in the possession of the Dighton Rock, with its Runic inscriptions; while Professor Eben Norton Horsford, scholar, inventor, and philanthropist, has reared, on a rocky height near Waltham, a lofty tower of pebble and bowlder, with detailed inscription upon a polished granite shaft. On Commonwealth Avenue, in Boston, Leif Ericson stands in bronze effigy on a red stone pedestal, carved in likeness of a dragon-prowed viking's craft. Among the settlements that failed may be noticed those of Bartholomew Gosnold (at Cuttyhunk) and Martin Prynne.

How long the "Skraalings," or red men, inhabited the land we know not. Somewhat over a thousand Indians, of more or less mixed blood, still dwell on Massachusetts soil, mostly on the coast or islands, and a venerable missionary society still makes annual grants of money for their religious nurture. The memory of the Indians is eternally embalmed in the many sonorous

names of rivers, mountains, and natural landmarks in the Commonwealth.

The "Bay Colony" was begun at Salem in 1628, under John Endicott, and reinforced and enlarged by John Winthrop, who came over to Charlestown in 1629 with a charter. In these two later emigrations were about thirteen hundred people. The Pilgrims never had any patent or charter, but under the royal document committed to Winthrop the Puritan government was formed, lasting sixty years. Not being satisfied with the water and other natural conditions at Charlestown, many of the people crossed the Charles River to Shawmut, which means "near the neck." Then "Bostonia Condita" could be written; for Boston, named later after the town founded by St. Botolph in England, was settled and its career begun. Until the coming of the Rev. John Cotton, — of whom Bishop Phillips Brooks was a descendant in the eighth generation, — the new settlement at Shawmut, near the farm of Blackstone, now Boston Common, was dubbed "Lost Town," because not at first flourishing. When, a decade later, King Charles and the Parliament were at odds, probably more colonists returned to England than emigrated to Massachusetts until the Revolutionary War.

The first settlers were toilers on land rather than on sea. As usual in the course of history, the poorest land was taken first, because it needed less preparatory work of axe, mattock, and fire for the reduction and removal of the timber, and the extraction of stumps from the soil. The landscape of Massachusetts has been carved and laid chiefly by the glacier, and the handwriting of God on the rocks is everywhere evident. Four divisions, both geological and typographical, are noted. Cape Cod and Plymouth County are made of rearranged glacial drift. From the shore region towards Connecticut River, the rocks belong to the Laurentian, Cambrian, and Carboniferous ages. In the middle of the three counties — Franklin, Hampshire, and Hampden — lies a great basin abounding in the footprints of colossal reptiles. Slabs of these triassic rocks, containing nine thousand tracks, are stored up, like some great terra-cotta library recovered from a buried world, in the museum of Amherst College. First discovered on a Sunday in the last century by a pious worshipper on his way home from the meeting-house, they were supposed to be the work of "Noah's raven." Westward from the Connecticut River basin, in Berkshire County, is a series of highly metamorphosed rock, probably as old as the Silurian period.

From the first, however, the resources of the State in economical geology, except a very little silver, lead, coal, emery, and iron, have been exhibited mainly in Quincy granite, red sandstone, and marble. Indeed, it may be said that the mines of Massachusetts are in the sea, or above the soil in the character and habits of her citizens. True type of the brain-nourishing food of the people, the cod deserves praise as the one fish which can be cooked in all ways, and eaten at all seasons of the year. Indeed, physicians have publicly declared that baked codfish and potatoes form the ideal food. To this, however, supplementing the colonial clams and corn, the native housekeeper out of her New England kitchen will add brown bread, baked beans, fishballs, doughnuts, pumpkin pies, all cooked and served in approved Boston style. It is certain that the first order of brains has been long nourished on this standard diet. Rejecting Christmas and Lent, the Pilgrims and Puritans struck a balance by instituting Thanksgiving and Fast days.

From the first, the people began cheerfully to replenish and subdue the earth. Many of the early Puritans were skilled fishermen or dealers in the produce of the sea before they crossed the Atlantic; and the prospective wealth to be obtained from the ocean was one of the

strong inducements, in addition to the urgency of conscience, which led them to this part of the world. From the first history of the Commonwealth to this day, there has been more wealth drawn out of the water than from the land. For food, oil, and fertilizers, the cod, whale, and finny spoil of all sorts have been caught by billions. The Indians within her borders, who first taught the settlers how to tread out a mess of eels and to cook succotash, were of Algonquin stock; but before the Revolution the Iroquois had named the governor of Massachusetts Kinshon, "the Fish." Shortly after this a golden cod was hung in the State House, and under the golden dome on Beacon Hill it still hangs, as the true symbol of the wealth of the Bay State.

THE OLD STATE HOUSE.

From July 4, 1631, when John Winthrop launched "The Blessing of the Bay," Massachusetts men have

been good shipbuilders. Their vessels became in less than a century the finest in the world. A permanent school of naval science and experience was founded in the fisheries and carrying trade, from which some of America's greatest naval heroes have been graduated. Among the descendants of early settlers may be named Ulysses S. Grant, Abraham Lincoln, John Brown, John A. Winslow, and a host of others.

In the Colonial, Revolutionary, and Civil wars no State has a naval record like that of the Bay State. In the War of Independence, over one-half of the American ships and sailors were from Salem, Boston, New Bedford, and other ports of Massachusetts. They first carried the American flag around the world, and then into every sea, becoming the common carriers of the world. The "Constitution," or "Old Ironsides," commanded by Captain Isaac Hull, and the "Essex," on which fought Porter and the boy Farragut, were both built on Massachusetts Bay, and manned largely by her sailors. Besides nourishing many heroes in our navy, who were born in her borders, the Bay State claims the honor of adding largely to astronomy, navigation, ship-hygiene, and allied sciences, in the persons of her sons, — Benjamin Thompson (Count Rumford), S. F. B. Morse, of

telegraphic fame, Nathaniel Bowditch, Benjamin Pierce, Benjamin Franklin, tamer of lightning and discoverer of the Gulf Stream, and her adopted son, Louis Agassiz. John Adams, who in 1819 modestly disclaimed being "the father of the American navy," was nevertheless influential in forming it, under Admiral Hopkins, in 1776. Adams gave names to the first five vessels, one of which, the "Andrea Doria," at St. Eustatius, in the West Indies, November 16, 1776, received from the Dutch governor, Johannes de Graeff, the first salute ever fired in honor of the American flag. The "amphibious" regiment of Marblehead, led by the doughty General John Glover, manned the boats which ferried over Washington's army after the battle of Long Island and before the victory of Trenton.

FANEUIL HALL.

When we inquire into the ancestral origin of the people who began our Commonwealth, we find that five-eighths of them came from those eastern and southern

counties of England which border on the North Sea or English Channel,— that region which may be called the centre of the commerce of Europe, where many ocean waters meet, and at which the mouths of many great rivers from the interior of Europe are found. Here the Celtic, Norse, and Teutonic nations mingled. The railway station next to Scrooby, named Ranskill (Ravenskelf, "mound of the ravens"), is but typical of the settlements of the Norsemen in England, and the rich infusion of Norse blood in those parts of England, whence came the Plymouth men. Their Norse blood explains that love of the water and of ships which is so natural to the sons of Massachusetts.

In few portions of the Union has the study of ancestry been so diligently carried on; and in the number of historical, antiquarian, and historic-genealogical societies Massachusetts leads all the States. In the volumes of local history published, commemorative statues, soldiers' monuments, tablets marking historic spots, memorials of distinguished men and women of local, state, or national fame, "Old South" and other courses of lectures on American history, the raising of flags on public schools, — the example of the Bay State deserves imitation everywhere. Though her population is no longer of

preponderantly English or native American stock, and is already more than half of Canadian-French, Nova Scotian, Irish, or other stocks, the effort is constant to educate all in the principles of American self-restraint and freedom, and in their responsibilities as citizens.

OLD NORTH CHURCH.

With their traits of enterprise and daring inherited from their Teutonic and Norse ancestors, the colonists joined love of discipline, a passion for law. They wanted good government, and for the sake of it they were willing to sacrifice personal convenience or desires. In the New World they laid out their towns on the old Frisian model, with a "common," or common land. Civilization advanced by social settlements, not by isolated cabins, by towns with churches, schools, music, culture. A system of political order was evolved in which there was the nicest balance between individual freedom and combination.

The military spirit from the first was dominant. The fighting qualities of their ancestors, the old Saxons and

Frisians, were manifest. Miles Standish and his mail-clad men returned the rattlesnake skin stuffed with bullets and powder, and began war just as soon as the Indians wanted it, — possibly sooner. The Ancient and Honorable Artillery of Boston was organized in 1637. Among the first imports to the colony from the West Indies, about 1640, was cotton for the wadding of corselets to render harmless Indian arrows. The war with the Pequots in 1637, and King Philip's War, 1645–1646, which reduced the colony to half of its strength in blood and treasure, issued in victory for the white man.

For two generations longer the settlers were harried by French and Indians from the North. Against the northern waves of invasion from Canada there was no breakwater; the frontier was all exposed. But on the west there was, standing like an impregnable mountain wall, the Confederacy of the Iroquois, the Six Nations, who, through the genius of Arendt Van Curler, — after whom the New York Indians named the Governor, and those of Canada Queen Victoria, — had been won, first to the Dutch, and then to the English side, as against the French. Yet, despite the constant alarms from the savage foe and the danger of invasion from Canada,

the indomitable military spirit of the people enabled them to strike the trouble at its source, and to dry up the poisonous springs of disaster. Hence during a period of nearly seventy years their thoughts were occupied with the reduction of Canada. After several unfortunate expeditions, the plain farmers of New England, led by merchants and lawyers, through a happy combination of circumstances aiding their own valor and genius, captured the great fortress of Louisburg. One of the first statues raised in the United States to the honor of Columbus stands in Louisburg Square, in Boston.

OLD SOUTH CHURCH.

To sustain the immense financial burden thus imposed upon them by their naval and military enterprise, the people of Massachusetts were obliged to coin money, 1652–1682, and in 1690 to emit bills of credit. Being practically an independent republic, Massachusetts put no royal effigy on those circular bits of metal, which are usually assumed to be the symbols of state sovereignty.

Taking the pine-tree as the typical natural feature on her landscape, symbolical of vigor, steadfastness, and ability to stand alone, she stamped the effigy of this majestic tree upon her shillings. Understanding political economy, she made coins less in value than those of the same name in England, so that they would be kept at home. Sixpenny and threepenny pieces were also minted. In country places to this day the Pennsylvanian in Massachusetts is amused to find that six shillings are yet believed to make a dollar. The pine-tree, afterwards, with the rattlesnake, appeared on the Massachusetts colonial flag, until both these symbols were eclipsed by the standard bearing her coat of arms as a sovereign State, and by the Stars and Stripes of the Union, — "the one flag she holds more sacred than her own." The great seal of state (*sigillum reipublicae Massachusettensis*) bears the figure of a tufted and moccasined Indian holding bow and arrow, standing beside a star, and under a mailed hand grasping a sword. The martial legend is from the Latin of that flower of English chivalry, Sir Philip Sidney, who fell, in the Dutch War of Independence, at Zutphen, — "By the sword she seeks calm repose under liberty."

When Charles II. came upon the throne, he made

inquisition into the way things had been going on in the Bay Province; and thinking that these people across the sea were taking and gaining too many liberties, he revoked the charter, and sent Sir Edmund Andros over to be his deputy and the royal governor. Andros made a fool of himself in a great many ways, and the people rose up in due time and put him in prison. When the Stadholder of the Dutch republic became King William III. of England, he granted a new and more liberal charter, which remained the supreme law of the colony until there was formed the Provincial Congress of 1774. Under this charter the "Old Colony" was, in 1692, swallowed up, and became one with the "Bay Colony." Massachusetts had then a population of forty-seven thousand.

WASHINGTON ELM.

Among the famous men of this period, from 1620–1692, were, in the Plymouth or Old Colony, Governors Carver and Bradford, the two Winslows, Prence, Hinckley; in the Bay Colony, Endicott, Winthrop, Dudley, Haynes, Vane, Bellingham, Leverett, Bradstreet, Joseph Dudley, Andros, and Danforth. Other names famous in theology, literature, enterprise, or social life, are those of John Alden, Anne Hutchinson, Richard, Increase, and Cotton Mather, John Cotton, Thomas Shepard, John Eliot, Henry Dunster, William Pynchon, and others.

Some idea of the intellectual foundation upon which the reputation of the State rests may be gained from the fact that to Massachusetts came a large majority of the one hundred Puritan clergymen who had been in the Church of England, and were university-bred men. Harvard University grew out of a public school founded at Newton in 1636, and settled at Cambridge in 1639. For over a quarter of a millennium "Fair Harvard" has sent out her graduates to do the world's work in every line of human achievement.

Under Queen Anne and the house of Brunswick there was comparative prosperity, and the taking up of new land and settling of new towns went on apace. The centre of the State was well dotted with farms and villages,

and as early as 1735 the Berkshire Hills were crossed, and the site of Pittsfield, under the name of "Boston Plantation," laid out. Indeed, not only is the name of Boston repeated twenty-five times on the map of the United States, but in northwestern America "Boston" was, among the aborigines, the synonym for white man.

Despite their ability to take care of themselves, the Massachusetts men were all loyal to the old country, and to her kings and the king's favorites, notwithstanding that so many of these proved themselves such foolish people. Hence in the naming of the Massachusetts towns we find a remarkably large number of the names of English kings, their palaces or places of residence, and of the king's servants or favorites; and one can read in the names of these towns the story of English politics. The limit was reached and the line was drawn in 1775, when, a town having been named after General Gage, and called Gageborough, the people petitioned to have the name changed, which was done. After that no shadow of royalty in any form was cast upon the nomenclature of the Commonwealth. In 1776 the first of the many towns in the United States called after the great Virginian received its name, Mount Washington, from the Legislature, as being the highest in Massachusetts, as well as in Berkshire county.

During the period of the royal governors the people pushed westwardly with axe and rifle, clearing the forests, improving wild beasts off the face of the earth, and making the wilderness bloom with roads, towns, churches, and hearth-fires. On the sea they caught fish, chased whales, built up a profitable trade, sold Friday food to the southern Europeans, and traded off for Old World comforts and luxuries the best ships then afloat. They imported West India molasses, and made New England rum; traded in and kept black slaves; maintained the public schools; drank cider at home, and strong liquors at the meetings of parson and deacons, — and did a host of things good and bad, like other saints and sinners. The powder-horns carved in the frontier-camp with geographical, historical, and more or less poetical annotations; the "melancholy sampler" made by the women at home; the chief literature theological, "the air black with sermons;" religious life keen, stern; social life serious; politics always exciting; newspapers few, and books not so many as well read, — show the strong, simple, intense life of the people, and the character of Massachusetts in formation. With the spinning-wheel at home fitted to work flax or wool, the busy women made clothing, as well as cooked and farmed. In the field or on the sea, the men became veterans ready

for Revolutionary regiments or Continental privateers. "In all labor there is profit" was the motto of these freemen, always prepared for peace or war.

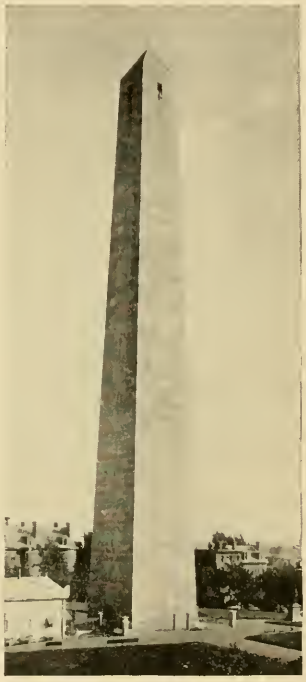
In the governorship we find Phipps, Stoughton, Bellamont, Dudley, Tailer, Shute, Dummer, Burnett, Belcher, Phips, Pownal, Hutchinson, Bernard, and Gage. In theology, Jonathan Edwards eclipsed all lesser lights with his profound thought, brilliant writings, and continental fame.

The English Revolution of 1688, by which Puritanism practically triumphed, and by which much that the Commonwealth had striven for was attained, and by which also toleration was first secured to Independents and other free-churchmen in England, was always a sore thing to royalty and aristocracy in that country; and a policy was inaugurated which, whatever the pretexts alleged or the matters of detail professed, was intended to undo the work of the Revolution. The House of Brunswick, led by King George III., was particularly active in this abominable policy, and one of its measures was the taxation of the colonies without their consent; and these colonies, following out the precedents of the republic in which so many of the Pilgrims and Puritans had been trained, and of their English ancestors, at once resisted. Massa-

chusetts and Virginia led in protest and revolt. Agitation was begun, and public opinion was roused. As in New York, the people had always voted the yearly salary of the governor, and refused anything like permanent support; and during the seventy-five years' quarrel over the subject they had been pretty well educated in matters of political finance.

In 1776 the Sons of Liberty first began to gather under the old Liberty Tree, which stood on the corner of what is now Washington and Boylston Streets in Boston. In October, 1770, Boston, which had only twelve thousand inhabitants, was garrisoned by one thousand red-coats, camped on the Common. On March 5, 1770, twelve "lobster backs," led by Captain Preston, fired on the crowd that was jeering at them, and blood was shed in front of the old State House. A monument to the civilians who were victims in this massacre stands near the Mall, on Boston Common, facing Tremont Street. After "the excursion of the king's troops to Lexington and Concord," and the resistance of the patriots, who claimed "the right to pass unmolested along the king's highway," came the British victory at Bunker Hill. The red-coats embarked near the old Providence depot. About where the statue of Leif Ericson stands lay some

of the British ships-of-war, one of them commanded by Captain Linzee; and much of what is now the handsomest part of Boston was then mud and ooze, under tidal water. Colonel Prescott led his militia well, and held them against the artillery and infantry fire of the regulars till his powder was all gone. Then English pluck snatched victory out of the jaws of defeat, and over the redoubt the Union Jack waved the same day. Nevertheless, the defeat was so glorious that Americans have, on the lost field, soon regained, erected a granite obelisk, a statue of Prescott, and inscribed bronze tablets commemorating the rank and file. In the hall of the Massachusetts Historical Society the swords of Linzee and Prescott, whose grandchildren were joined in marriage, are crossed in an entwining wreath. Along the road from Boston to Lexington memorial stones mark the historic spots reddened by patriot blood.



BUNKER HILL MONUMENT.

The old elm in Cambridge, near the Harvard University grounds, under which Washington took command of the Continental army, still stands. Dorchester Heights being fortified, and the city and harbor commanded, the city was evacuated on Saint Patrick's Day. Both the Saint and the good riddance are celebrated on March 17, under the form of "Evacuation Day."

Bunker Hill dictated the tactics of the war. The British, who had not been under fire from 1762 to 1775, got such a taste of the power of the Massachusetts rifle that they were never known from that time forth to attack by assault Americans who were behind intrenchments; they relegated this unpopular work entirely to Hessians. In the Revolution Massachusetts furnished probably half of the men for the Continental army, and possibly three-fourths of the American force upon the ocean. On the scroll of fame the names of the sons of Mars and of Massachusetts are sown thickly like stars in the heavens. Standish, Church, Williams, Ward, Warren, Gridley, Knox, Lincoln, Putnam, Eaton, Hill, Hooker, Lander, and a host of minor lights are among those whose valor and abilities are gratefully remembered in the wars of the Colony, the State, and the Nation. In the war for the Union, besides contracting a debt of over

fifty millions, Massachusetts sent nearly 160,000 men into the armies of the Republic.

In the making of constitutions the old Bay State has been fruitful. The first was drawn up in the cabin of the "Mayflower." Besides patents and charters there have always been the town meeting and the General Court, — that is, local and state legislatures, each governed by written rules. When Massachusetts separated from the mother country, — the last General Court under royal authority dissolving on the day of the battle of Bunker Hill, — the Provincial Congress, which had met October 5, 1774, and February 1, 1775, assumed both the legislative and executive powers. The first constitution submitted to the people by this Congress was rejected by popular vote March 4th. The constitution, drawn up mainly by John Adams, was accepted by the popular vote in 1780. It declared the Commonwealth to be a free, sovereign, and independent State. After Shay's Rebellion no great civil trouble was experienced, and the wheels of the political machinery have moved smoothly unto this day. The boundaries of Massachusetts have been settled after negotiation with every one of the five States adjoining. The title to Maine was acquired in 1717, and relinquished in 1820. In juris-

prudence and statesmanship the long roll of names includes those of Sewall, Story, Parsons, Shaw, Otis, Ames, Samuel, John, and John Quincy Adams, Quincy, Webster, Choate, Everett, and Sumner.

Of her governors under the constitution, the first was John Hancock, also President of the Continental Congress. He served from 1780 to 1785, and his mansion, — a superb specimen of colonial architecture, — stood on Beacon Hill, fronting Boston Common. It is this typical Massachusetts house which has been chosen for reproduction at the Columbian Exposition. His imposing sign-manual, as bold as though made by a crowbar, yet as artistic as a writing-master would desire, is, of all the signatures to the Declaration of Independence, most easily read at a distance. After Hancock came Bowdoin, Samuel Adams, Sumner, Gill, Gore, Gerry, Strong, Everett, Washburn, the great war governor John A. Andrew, and others.

From the first cargo of fish, beaver, and sassafras sent home to pay the Pilgrims' debts, and the first bargain made at home with wampum, Massachusetts has had a steadily developing commercial history. In finance, commerce, banks, savings-banks, insurance, the loaning of money and investments made for the building up of the country, her record is a noble one.

In her industrial career, Massachusetts was first agricultural, then naval, then manufacturing. The boot-shaped State leads all others in the manufacture of foot-gear. In early days the Essex County men built ships and sailed them, or went fishing or trading in summer, and made shoes in winter. "Hannah at the window binding shoes" took her share of the light manual labor; and now a great army of shoemakers, from Pittsfield to Brockton, keeps half the people of the United States well shod. The inventive genius blossomed early. In the manufacture of textiles, in hardware, in notions of all sorts, the business-man must be constantly alert to avail himself of the latest improvements in machinery, else he soon falls back in the procession of the successful. Water-power first, then steam, and finally electricity, are the motors harnessed and driven by man. Named in the order of their importance, the chief manufactures of the State are shoes,

THE HOME OF LONGFELLOW.

cottons, woollens, iron, and paper. A network of railways stretches across the State, which is almost as famous for its good roads and sign-posts as for its two and a half millions of apple-trees. The making of electrical equipment is a new and thriving industry. A notable chapter in this progress of power and the mastery of Nature's material and forces has been written by Massachusetts men, among whom we may name Rumford, Scholfield, Elias Howe, Samuel Williston. and scores of living inventors, who have almost made wood, stone, metal, and fibre think as well as toil for man. At first from the sea, and then from the mills of the Merrimack valley, came the wealth of Boston. Water, whether salt or fresh, has always been made to serve the State. The Merrimack is the father of many towns. Longfellow has glorified honest toil, and Whittier sung the songs of labor.

Yet, brilliant and solid as is her reputation in things material, this Commonwealth has other glories in which she excels. Her mark on the nation has been deepest in intellectual and moral achievements. She has led in religion, reform, education, and literature. The church-spire and the school-house are the pre-eminent features in her landscapes. The free common school system

sustained by public taxation is almost coterminous with her history; while in its development, Massachusetts has ever stood foremost among the States in the national commonwealth. Besides her graded, high, normal, agricultural, scientific, technological, professional, and special schools, her colleges and universities, for both sexes and all classes, her women's colleges,—Wellesley, Smith, Mount Holyoke,—women's clubs and open avenues for woman's work and advancement are notable. The first newspaper, the first "printery," the first translation and publication of the Bible within the limits of the United States, besides other initiatives of lesser note, were at Cambridge or Boston. The Almanac, the Freeman's Oath, the Bay Psalm Book, Eliot's Indian Bible, and the New England Primer, were among the incunabula. From the library brought over by Elder Brewster to Plymouth, to the imposing Boston

THE BIRTHPLACE OF WHITTIER.

Free Public Library on Copley Square, the people have kept their minds well nourished with solid reading. In the number of her public libraries, "free to all," the Bay State leads the world. American literature began at Plymouth, was developed in the coast region and from thence as well as from the Berkshire Hill country has received world-wide recognition. In historiography, Bradford, Winthrop, Hutchinson, Sparks, Palfrey, Prescott, Motley, Bancroft, and Parkman; in philosophy, William Pynchon, Jonathan Edwards, Benjamin Franklin, W. E. Channing, Ralph Waldo Emerson, and Theodore Parker; in poetry, R. H. Dana, Bryant, Longfellow, Lowell, and Holmes; in oratory, Winthrop, Phillips, Brooks; in fiction, Hawthorne, Mrs. Stowe, J. G. Holland; in art, Copley, Stuart, Allston, Hunt, Greenough, Story, and Ball, — with a host of lesser or living names, — adorn the long roll of Massachusetts.

Since the elimination of negro slavery from our national life, and the close of the War for the Union, the population of Massachusetts has doubled, and her wealth increased manifold. In Faneuil Hall, the old Cradle of Liberty, the Robert E. Lee Camp and the John A. Andrew Post have dined together in fraternal reunion, and on Bunker Hill, as one band, the Blue and the Gray

joined in fresh consecration of loyalty to our common country.

In this barest outline of the history of Massachusetts, we have but pointed out the primal elements; it is for

STATE HOUSE.

the visitor to the Columbian Exposition to study the flower and fruit. Refraining from quotation of the Census Report of 1890, and inviting the sons of Massa-

chusetts from home and from afar, in America or from the ends of the earth, to inspect her material, literary, and educational exhibits, we ask again from them in behalf of the old Bay State the ancestral prayer, —

God save the Commonwealth.

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